



News Release

Attorney General Robert E. Cooper, Jr.

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TENNESSEE ATTORNEY GENERAL SEEKS APPROVAL OF \$1.25 MILLION JUDGMENT ON BEHALF OF 615 SOLDIERS AGAINST MILITARY LENDER AND RETAILER

Tennessee Attorney General Bob Cooper is seeking more than \$1 million in refunds for 615 soldiers in a deceptive trade practices case against a North Carolina military lender and retailer.

Montgomery County Circuit Court Judge Ross R. Hicks will hold a hearing tomorrow at 9:00 a.m., to approve an agreed final judgment filed by the State of Tennessee in a consumer protection case against North Carolina-based Britlee, Inc., Millenium Finance, Inc. and their owner and operator Stuart L. Jordan (Britlee). Britlee agreed to the entry of the judgment.

The State sued Britlee in late 2005, alleging it engaged in deceptive sales and lending practices primarily through selling computers at Governor's Square Mall in Clarksville, and targeting soldiers mostly from the Ft. Campbell, Kentucky army base. In 2007, Tennessee added defendants Millenium Finance, Inc. and Stuart L. Jordan to the case, after finding evidence they were actively involved in Britlee's conduct as well.

In late 2008, Attorney General Cooper won a \$10.8 million judgment against Rome in the same case, with an \$8.8 million award specially designated as soldier restitution. Rome filed for bankruptcy reorganization in Oakland, California, but a bankruptcy trustee was later appointed by the court to take over Rome's operations, after the United States Trustee's office expressed concern over numerous irregularities, including evidence Rome was siphoning assets into new companies. Some assets have since been returned to the bankruptcy estate and the case is still pending. It is not yet known how much restitution soldiers victimized by Rome will receive from the Tennessee action.

Consumers who believe they may have been harmed by Britlee's business practices, or who have complaints about any consumer matter should go online at <http://www.tn.gov/consumer> or call the Division of Consumer Affairs at 615-741-4737 or toll-free in Tennessee at 1-800-342-8385.